IRONDALE NEWSLETTER

Produced by the Bark Lake Cultural Developments

December 2019 / January2020

Bark Lake Cultural Developments

Charitable No.
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Historical
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Host your next function at Irondale's heritage church

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Minden Hills Council

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~Rentals~

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Happy New Year!!!

I saw this cartoon and felt it was so simple but very accurate - I wanted to share it with you.

Below some of the residents of Salerno Lake gathered to wish you all the best for 2020.

Thanks to Kevin Pepper for taking the picture and sharing his excellent skills.

Whiskey & Wickedness

Readers may recall our speaker of April 2018, held in partnership with the Haliburton Museum. Larry Cotton introduced us to his 'Whiskey & Wickedness' Trent Severn Waterways series. He spoke on Volume 3 — which touched on stories of Haliburton County.

Your editor recently received an email from Mr. Cotton - announcing he has a new volume. Volume IV 1825-1890 will be available to purchase late March. Each volume is priced at $39. It is intended that a couple of our local stores will carry this volume as they have before, saving shipping costs.

Some of the chapter titles - How Timber was Harvested; Logging the Gull River Watershed; Logging the Burnt River Watershed; Roads Opening the County of Haliburton; Whiskey Built Railways & Communities; etc. Each of these chapters have many sub-chapters.

Looking forward to March - for Mr. Cotton's latest book and of course for warmer weather.

Treat Your Valentine to our Portuguese Dinner

February 22 - 5pm
Irondale Community Centre
$20 pp
authentic Portuguese menu
available online or call/text 705-457-8438

B.L.C.D. events support Irondale's history

Look what I found in the local papers

NOW OPEN!
Gails Craft Creations
1044 Mill Street Gooderham
Open Thursday - Saturday 10-5
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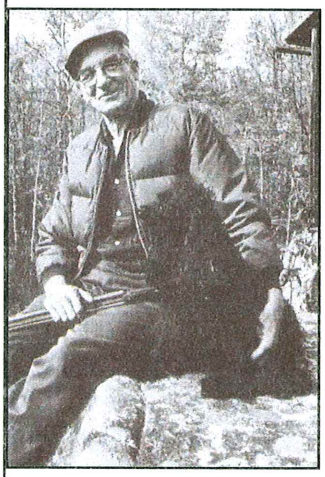
Introducing you to a Special Man

In the summer of 2013 we took Irondale to the Wilberforce Fair. We had set up a tent of historical displays to introduce some of Irondale's history to the neighbouring towns. A gentleman came around to say hello and talk history. After we had a fair chat he gave me one of his books of quotes.

The back of this book reads, "Born on a farm bordering the shores of Lake Wilbermere in the Highlands of Haliburton to a family of nine. Sandy was sixth in line. In his turn he took on the nickname. Parents Edward and Sophia Sanderson, although both city born, raised two daughters and seven sons. The days were often challenging, work was hard but rewarding. They operated one of the early summer resorts in the county. Having reached his 89th birthday on April 10 2013, Sandy has long passed his 'nickname' succession line and is introduced as Kenneth Daniel. Today he remains the only member of his family. Much history of the past is being compiled and will appear in "Come, Walk with Me". I trust that even if one quote has brought a smile, I will consider the time and effort well invested."

We lost this gentleman in November. I will share his quotes in future newsletters. You can find the first nine quotes on page 6.

From all my research—it seems that "Come walk with Me" was never completed. Ken, like a lot of us, had 100s of ideas and good intentions. Although he lived to be 95 he needed another 30 years.



Our last issue had a poem by Theodore Peacock 'the Haliburton Trapper'

Thought we should introduce you to him.

Theodore Peacock was born 5 June 1905 in Fortescue, Glamorgan Twp, Peterborough Cty to William J. Peacock and Miranda Thursa/Theresa Ford. This couple already had five children; Ethel 1892, John 1894, Catherine 1896, James 1898 and Gordon 1901 when Theo came along. Two more boys added to this family—Wm Gifford 1907 and Ford 1918.

Theodore married Theresa Carmichael on 28 Aug 1937 in the town of Lindsay, after buying the marriage license in Minden on 21 Aug 1937.

Theresa was born in Gooderham to William D. Carmichael and Mary A. Madill.

Theo Peacock purchased the old hotel property[1] in Gooderham as a vacant land. He built a Texaco Service Station and the house which stands beside it. This station burnt in 1965 and replaced with the building you know as J & D Service Centre (one of our advertisers) on Mill Street. As a sidebar - Cliff Stoughton set up a barber shop in the corner of Theo's station before moving to the old jail building.

Theodore died 20 Nov 1985 and Theresa died 1 June 1989. They are buried together as buried in the Gooderham Cemetery on County Rd 503 across from Wolfe/Billings Lk Rd. and on the corner of McColls Rd.

Next issue will have another of Theo's poems—about the railroad.

[1] Union Hotel burnt 5 May 1932

Ken Sanderson
~ Nov 10, 2019 ~
of Wilberforce
101 Quotes by 'Sandy' on page 6

Bèrthe Rodger
mother of Douglas Rodger
~ Nov 24, 2019 ~

Many Albert
wife of Fred Albert
~ December 20, 2019 ~

John Rumble
nephew of Madeliene Howarth
~ December 20, 2019 ~

Jean Quibell
sister of Margy Swanton
~ December 23, 2019 ~

Vera Coles
mother of Diane & Ivor Thompson
~ December 27, 2019 ~

Wade Hartin
son of Brad & Mary Hartin
~ Jan 14, 2020 ~

Our condolences to the families and friends of those we lost.

As you are aware there is no membership fee — we prefer to share our history and newsletters freely.

Our costs are always rising.

Would you consider donating towards printing costs? Tax receipts are issued.

CRA# 804870087

Thank you for giving some thought to this request.

If you look at the back right-hand side of a **paper Canadian $10 bill** (printed early 2000s), you will see an old veteran standing at attention near the Ottawa War Memorial. His name is Robert Metcalfe and he died October 2014 at the age of 90. That he managed to live to that age is rather remarkable, given what happened in the Second World War.

Born in England , he was one of the 400,000 members of the British Expeditionary Force sent to the mainland where they found themselves facing the new German warfare technique - the Blitzkrieg.

He was treating a wounded comrade when he was hit in the legs by shrapnel. En route to hospital, his ambulance came under fire from a German tank, which then miraculously ceased fire. He was evacuated from Dunkirk on HMS Grenade, two of the sister ships with them were sunk. Recovered, he was sent to allied campaigns in North Africa and Italy. Again, his ship was chased by the German battleship Bismarck.

In North Africa he served under General Montgomery against the Desert Fox, Rommel. Sent into the Italian campaign, he met his future wife, a lieutenant and physio-therapist in a Canadian hospital. They were married in the morning by the mayor of the Italian town, and again in the afternoon by a British padre.

After the war, they settled in Chatham, Ontario, where he went into politics and became the warden of the county, and on his retirement he and his wife moved to Ottawa . At the age of 80 he wrote a book about his experiences.

One day out of the blue he received a call from a government official asking him to go downtown for a photo op. He wasn't told what the photo was for, or why they chose him. 'He had no idea he would be on the bill,' his daughter said.

And now you know the story of the old veteran on the $10 bill.

MONTHLY POTLUCKS

Glenda makes sure anybody that attends the potlucks and celebrating a birthday that month gets a card and the honour of blowing out the candle/s on the cake. November birthdays - Glenda Simmons and John Quinlan. Those celebrating a December birthday were Bryan Neville and Maxine Marr.
Glenda says we need to work on our singing.

HAVE YOU HEARD THE REPORT??

LCBO CONVENIENCE OUTLET

"Whether driving to the cottage or running errands, consumers across Ontario will now have more places to pick up beer, wine and other alcoholic beverages,"

"Up to 60 of the new convenience outlets are expected to open in August, & up to 150 new locations are expected to open by December. Additional stores would open next spring."

Irondale applied for and was awarded one of these new stores—known as "LCBO Convenience Outlets."

Your editor has not had the opportunity to stop in and view this new store, however you can be assured there were many that appreciated the convenience over the holidays.

Please remember to Drink Responsibly.

www.IrondaleOntario.ca to stay informed, purchase event tickets

For Sale

Roof Trusses –16 available - 20' span - 5 x 12 pitch = $1,000 obo
Squared Timber - various lengths, approx. 1500 running feet, enough for 24 x 40
Call Fred at 705-457-8438

~ ~ FREE ~ ~
Windows - single pane - for outbuilding/ greenhouse = free
Call Fred at 705-457-8438

~ ~ ~ ~

Wanted - Flags

Ontario and Canada flags - for our "Welcome to Irondale" signs. See George Simmons.

~ ~ ~ ~

Have something to sell?
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or historical@IrondaleOntario.ca

First deployment of the 14th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery - - continued from Oct/Nov 2019 issue

Gnr. Donald Harper, Gnr. Dalton Keyes, Gnr. George Lindop (Ganonoque, ON) and Gnr. Andrew Fairhurst (Englehart, ON), 14th Field Regiment, RCA, seating on a Priest self-propelled gun in Normandy, 20 June 1944. All four of these men survived the war. *Photo by Donald I. Grant. Dept of National Defence / National Archives of Canada, PA-131408.*

The narrow street between the grim stone walls proved a formidable bottleneck as we tried desperately to press forward, further complicated by the excited citizens surrounding our vehicles and pressing pitchers of strong Calvados cider upon us.

In the confusion of landing and the haste to get off the beach a minor complication had developed in that the guns of the three batteries had become mixed up in the column that now stretched through the town. Given time, we would all get sorted out when space permitted. But in the tight restriction of that narrow street, packed nose to tail with guns, we sat helpless for what seemed an eternity, our anxiety increased as the grey stone walls re-echoed with distant explosions of unseen weapons back on the beach or elsewhere. In the meantime, the Regiment de la Chaudiere was threading its way on foot through our guns to precede us to the outskirts of the town. I remember envying them their mobility as they steadily made their way past us.

When the moment finally came that we could move, it was to directly support the advance of these same Chaudieres that we slowly and thankfully edged forward to get clear of the town. The first four guns of the mixed-up batteries that finally broke free were the quickest available and were so designated for use by Lt. Belyea, who undertook to deploy them. Although that first gun position is more thickly treed and overgrown today, the foreground of the field that morning was clear of growth, although farther to our front it appeared to be planted with very young trees intended as an orchard. However, there was no growth high enough to impede crest clearance & field was serviceable enough for our purpose.

There was a feeling of vast relief to be finally released from the real and imagined dangers of the crowded town as we prepared to take our familiar role of occupying a gun position. However, one aspect of that deployment was not so familiar; the infantry we were to support were immediately in front of us and in full view as they felt their way forward into unknown territory. Nothing could be predicted of what lay ahead of them and in our haste to be ready to give them covering fire in any emergency no critical reconnaissance of that gun position was possible, nor did it seem necessary.

Whatever dangers lurked farther ahead, the limited view of our immediate front appeared harmless enough - an open panorama of farm fields and growing crops lying in the bright sunshine of a warm June morning.

What we could not know was that six or seven hundred yards directly to our front, strategically sited to cover all exit from the town, was an .88 gun, the deadliest weapon in the enemy's weaponry, deeply dug in with the barrel at ground level and skilfully camouflaged, waiting for us.

No doubt that gun had been hidden there for some time as a cunning and well-integrated part of coastal defence; had there been a little less frantic excitement among the local citizenry that morning it might have occurred to someone to warn us of its existence. But in the hectic fervour of sensed liberation no cool heads prevailed and we were left to discover the hard way what lay in store for us.

From the town we emerged abruptly into the open, leaving the road and turning to the right around the massive corner of a high Normandy wind-wall protecting some farm buildings. As we then began a wide turn to the left that would distribute the guns on their individual sites, the four guns were in this order: Art Evans 'Charlie' 2, Ed Crockett 'Able' 3, Bob Sciberas 'Able' 4, and Wes Alkenbrack 'Dog' 4.

On the far left someone had set up a director and was determining the zero line in preparation to pass angles to the guns, while to our front the Gun Position Officer was giving arm signals, indicating the line of guns and the approximate zero line. As the last gun, Dog 4, came around the corner of the stone wall and emerged on the field, Evans' gun had almost reached its site, and Crockett's and Sciberas' were still moving on. It was at that moment that the .88 began its deadly work.

Clear above the sound of our labouring engines and clanking tracks came the grinding screech of an armour-piercing shell meeting steel at high velocity as Evans' gun took the first hit. As smoke and dust billowed up from the stricken vehicle and the gun crew leapt from the deck to hit the ground, with incredible swiftness the second gun, Crockett's, was struck and it was similarly abandoned by its crew as smoke and dust rose.

With those first two guns crippled and now burning it was obvious that our deployment was rapidly falling apart. Though stunned at the scene ahead of us, we on Dog 4 were still coming on, tensely preoccupied with our clumsy turn around the corner of the wall with that damned stone-boat squealing against our churning tracks.

Continued page 5

First deployment - continued

In the kaleidoscope of the rapidly-changing scene around us impressions were fleeting and confused. We were apparently receiving additional fire from somewhere, probably mortars; the man on the director, Bdr. Caverly, was now a casualty on the ground and we on Dog 4 were marginally aware that extra personnel not directly involved in the deployment had very sensibly hit the ground beside the stone wall behind us.

Although almost unbelievably in neither case of the first two guns had the lethal bomb loads on their decks been struck, at this point whatever grim luck we had had finally run out in a stroke of unimaginable violence. As Dog 4 cleared the corner and moved forward onto the field Sciberas' gun in front of us erupted in a massive and hideous sheet of red flame and the concussion of the explosion leapt from it in a shock wave of paralysing force.

There was no smoke to veil the disaster - one moment there was flame and the next moment revealed the stark and utter disintegration of what had been thirty tons of moving steel, now strewn on the ground like scattered garbage - the gun barrel and bits and pieces of steel plate and the remnants of tracks and heavy castings blown here and there, no slightest evidence that six men had stood on the deck of that SP when sudden destruction came.

Dog 4 had stopped by then and as we stood transfixed in stupefied horror a vehement shout came from the group by the wall behind us to break the spell. "Alkenbrack, get back...", it was Capt. Buchanan, Dog Troop Commander, "... get the hell back out of there!!"

What possible good backing up would do at that point was less than useless to ponder, but it broke us loose from our paralysis - it was something to do and he didn't have to shout twice. I jumped over the side and the crew followed me. Stumbling to the front of the vehicle I made hand signals to the driver, Bruiser Burke, to back up. (It was only then that the stunned realization came that in our haste to jump ship Bruiser had been forgotten and he had made no move to follow us.)

He was still at his post in the driver's seat, his tense white face staring out at me through his narrow window, waiting for orders, a brave man, Bruiser - the rest of us were clear and might have stood some chance when the next shot came, but deep in the hull there he stood no chance at all. As I signalled desperately, he went into reverse but as he revved up the only result was the grinding squeal of steel against steel as the tracks churned uselessly against the sides of that forgotten stone boat. He came ahead fractionally and tried to reverse again, but with the same result. We were grinding there helplessly and all the while we were subconsciously waiting for the next round and wondering why we were still alive.

To add to the fearful frustration, small arms fire was now sizzling across the field like a swarm of bees, apparently rifle ammunition overheated and set off in those first two SPs, now briskly burning. In final desperation I shouted to L/Bdr. Buck McDonald to get down and unhook the clevises that secured the stone-boat and once we had rid ourselves of that we were able to back up and get out of our predicament.

Although we didn't realize it amid the noise and confusion of those last few minutes, that .88 did get in one last round and one last hit, too, and it was on us; fortunately it was only a minor hit that tore the top off the tool box on the left rear corner of the vehicle just above the tracks, and then went on to tear a hole in that stone wall behind us. Apparently before the layer had a chance to correct his aim with another shot the Chaudieres in their advance closed in on the gun and killed the gun crew. But for those of us on Dog 4 it was as close as that!

We were a badly-shaken bunch as we took stock of our losses and gave our wounded, first aid as we quickly evacuated them to the beach area. The town and our immediate front were now apparently cleared of the enemy & as the remainder of the Regiment debouched from the town and we rejoined them we learned of what our initial losses had been on the beach behind us.

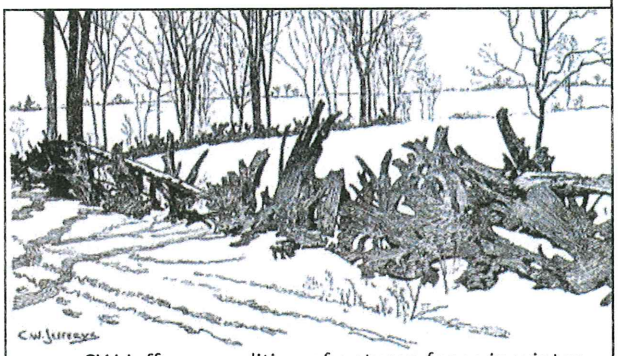
Fortunately, the urgent need to move quickly inland and gain ground left us no time to dwell on the shock of our initial losses; leaving the burning wreckage of that first action behind us as we collected ourselves, the re-united Regiment began a concerted move south on the road to Beny-sur-Mer to find whatever awaited us.

This concludes Wesley M. Alkenbrack's reminisces. We thank David & Mary Trepanier for sharing her uncle's story.

PLEASE SUPPORT
the various businesses that advertise in our newsletters.
Interested in advertising with us? Please call/text 705-457-8438 or email historical@IrondaleOntario.ca

"Fences are a very ancient device used either to protect property from marauding animals or to restrain one's own from wandering from the homestead. The various types of fences that have been used in pioneer days indicate a steady development. The idea of fencing land probably developed from earlier days when the different tribes built stockades or walls to protect their homes, encampments, towns and cities from enemies." "The Guardian," 20 May 1958.

Stump Fencing -- Our ancestors needed to clear their land, tame the wilderness if you will. As they cleared the land, logs would have been used to build houses and barns/stables. The root section of the logs were left where the tree was felled or dragged to the property line. Interlocking stumps would keep animals out or in as the case may be. People visiting would walk around the end of the fence rather than attempting to go over it.



CW Jefferys rendition of a stump fence in winter

Stone Fencing -- Many people in the Haliburton Highlands feel that the only thing our land will grow is rocks. As we plow our land up for gardens we find more and more rocks.

Our ancestors found the same thing. They piled their rocks along property lines just as they did with their stumps, creating necessary fences while clearing areas for gardens.

There is a fabulous stone fence in Irondale. Of course at this time of year it is hidden from view. Peter Barr built the fence (seen on the left) about 1874. A small plaque explaining the history had been installed some years ago.

Come summer, we will be looking for a couple volunteers to help clear bushes and grasses away to expose this historical feature.

101 Quotes By Sandy

1. Failure is only you fail to learn from it.
2. You will never be heard unless you speak.
3. Don't Blame anyone until you are certain you didn't do it yourself.
4. What one has done may never show what one has done you may never know. But God knows.
5. He who speaks much and achieves little, is like a fruit tree that bears much blossom, little fruit.
6. The best way to stop a quarrel is not to start one.
7. Yesterday is a day that we won't see tomorrow.
8. If you can't remember what you forgot then it wasn't worth remembering.
9. Failure is when you fail to try.
10. Marriage hinges on love and is locked in the security of trust.

Watch for more quotes in future newsletters.

Thank You
Gerard Klompmaker
seasonal resident on Salerno Lk
for keeping the furnace clean and running efficiently at the heritage building, known as the 'Irondale Church'

Brenda's Recipe Corner

Each issue will feature a recipe for a dish that was enjoyed at one of our fundraiser dinners.

Cheesecake

This cheesecake was served at the 2019 Wild Game Dinner.

500gm (2 pk) cream cheese	¼ cup flour
5 egg yolks	1 tsp vanilla
2/3 cup sugar	½ tsp lemon rind
3 tbsp lemon juice	1 cup sour cream

Mix cream cheese, egg yolks and sugar. Add vanilla, lemon juice and lemon rind. Stir in sour cream, then flour. Beat 5 egg whites until stiff and add ¼ cup sugar. Fold into cheese mixture. Pour into a spring-form pan that has bottom and sides lined with a graham cracker or pastry crust (depending on your taste).
Bake at 450° for 20 min or until golden, turn temp. to 300° and bake for another 1 hour. Check to make sure the top doesn't get too dark – if it does loosely cover with foil.

Pastry Crust

2 cups flour	3 tsp baking powder
½ cup butter	1 egg
½ cup sugar	1 tsp vanilla
Pinch of salt	

Cream butter, sugar and egg. Add the rest of the ingredients. Knead until mixed. If it is too dry add a little milk, tablespoon at a time. Press into pan, bottom and sides.

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Travel with us to Portugal
(gastronomically)

Saturday, February 22, 2020

Dinner served at 5pm

Enjoy a full meal featuring authentic dishes from Portugal

$20 pp

Irondale Community Centre

Tickets available online
or call/text 705-457-8438

B.L.C.D. events support Irondale's history

North Victoria and Haliburton

Gold and nickel were both found ... Mr George McKee's farm we secured several fine nickel samples. An hour's work in digging and rolling out blasted rock gave us a fine appetite.

....That afternoon found us traversing the newly opened way to the White Lake road to Kinmount. It might be worse. The route from White Lake to Irondale west of Devil's Lake is also rough. The place is well named. Over both of these we took a rest by consequence our humor was kind of critical. On the farm of Mr Switzer in Snowdon we secured samples of area and are having the assayed. They indicate gold.

At Irondale the railway works were inspected and a trip was taken on the "little Mary Ann or Mary Ann's up," the new engine and car for the railway. The road is now open on to Gooderham ten miles farther. That makes upwards of twenty miles form junction near Kinmount. Much freight is ready to be hauled over the road, and it is expected much ore will now be brought.

One of the roughest roads, next to Devil's Lake one, is that from Irondale to Gelert. But there the walking was also very good. No long stay was made at Gelert, for it was then after dark and Minden had to be reached that night.

From an early newspaper clipping of undetermined date ... likely spring 1894

~ Irondale Calendar of Events ~

Hang this page on your refrigerator or next to your calendar so you don't miss out!

2020	Unless otherwise noted - Tickets available online at www.IrondaleOntario.ca or call/text 705-457-8438
Sat. Feb 22	**Portuguese Dinner** held at the Irondale Community Centre. Dinner served from 5pm to 7pm—as long as supplies last. *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*
Sat. April 11	**Wilberforce Maplefest** Event All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast and lots of shopping with the local vendor tables. 9 am to 2 pm. Wilberforce Community Centre, in the heart of Wilberforce.
Sat. April 18	**Fish 'N Fowl Dinner** held at the Gooderham Community Centre. Doors open 5pm. Dinner at 6pm. Fish, turkey, potatoes, vegetables, salad & dessert. Loonie auction action after dessert. $20 pp *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*
Sun. June 7	**First Church Service** - visiting Minister expected. 10 am. Come as you are. **Book Nook Opening** - 11 am to 1 pm - no charge so help yourself to refreshments, books, videos, puzzles ...
Sat. July 4 or 11	**Concert on the Lake** - Great music from the comfort of your own boat, canoe or paddleboard. Music starts at 6:30pm Check *www.sdlca.ca* for more details.
Sat. July 18	**Wild Game Dinner** - Popular dinner, held at the Gooderham Community Centre. Doors open 5pm, buffet at 6pm. All game served as bite size pieces, you can sample it all. Remember bring loonies for after dinner fun. **PLEASE NOTE NEW LOCATION FOR THIS DINNER** *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*
Sat. Aug 1 **Sun. Aug 2**	Salerno Devil's Lake Cottage Association's AGM 10 am at the Irondale Community Centre Salerno Devil's Lake Cottage Association's Canoe Race, BBQ and Children's Games check www.sdlca.ca for more details.
Mid August	**Irondale Inspirations** - the artists that call Irondale home will be showcasing their work at the historical Irondale church. 10 am to 4pm. Please drop by, enjoy their talents. You may just catch one or more of them creating on site.
Sat. Sept 19	**Family Harvest Festival** - 11 to 4pm - Vendors, BBQ, displays, tours—all on the property of Irondale's historical church building. NO ADMISSION CHARGED. Hike Haliburton tour starts & ends here as well. *B.L.C.D. event*
Sat Nov 7	**Themed Dinner** held at the Irondale Community Centre. Dinner served from 5 pm til 7pm as long as supplies last. $20 pp Menu still being planned. *You certainly shouldn't go away hungry!* *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*

PLEASE FOLLOW US *www.facebook/IrondaleOntario* *and* *VISIT* OUR WEBSITE *www.IrondaleOntario.ca*

Irondale Events are advertised in

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the local papers and available at most stores across the county.

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